

October 16, 2014

Dear Civic President:

The Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) and the State of Maryland are asking for your help in identifying one representative from your civic group to serve on a Rapid Transit System (RTS) Corridor Advisory Committee (CAC).

You may have heard the RTS system referred to as Bus Rapid Transit (BRT). BRT is a transit service that uses buses, often in dedicated lanes, to provide a frequent, reliable service with added amenities such as sleek, modern vehicles and stations, and real-time information. Traffic signal priority is often used to keep the buses on schedule. We are using the term RTS to refer to the entire transportation network that we hope will eventually be constructed along a number of major routes in the county. The State is calling each of the individual routes a BRT corridor. The attached map shows those that have been selected as the first to be studied in the RTS network.

We believe the RTS will play a vital role in Montgomery County's future, enhancing the mobility of those who live and work here, boosting economic development and job creation, and providing much needed relief from traffic congestion. The scope of this long-term project is just being developed, and given its magnitude, the project will proceed in stages. No commitments toward construction of any corridor have been made at this point.

A CAC will be established for each individual corridor that is under consideration. The CACs are essential to ensuring that community stakeholders have ample opportunity to participate in the RTS system planning process. CAC members will advise on general concept designs; study assumptions; transit access and operations; coordination with other studies; the public involvement planning; and community needs.

A CAC nomination form (in both English and Spanish) as well as a planning outline that details the structure, selection procedures, specific tasks, formation process, and operating guidelines for the CACs are available on the County's website at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rtsc. A paper copy of both will be mailed to you shortly.

To be eligible for a CAC, your representative must:

1. Be willing to regularly attend your area meetings. We anticipate that the meetings will be held at least quarterly, with potentially more frequent meetings in the beginning.
2. Reside in your community as your neighborhood is located along one of the RTS corridors (within 150-500 feet of a proposed corridor).

Please give priority to individuals who meet the criteria noted below:

- A. Have the capacity to adequately represent the residents in your subdivision or neighborhood.
- B. Have the leadership ability to clearly address stakeholder issues and to bring together diverse interests to achieve consensus within your community concerning the RTS.

- C. Either could be directly impacted by the RTS project or would have the capacity to adequately represent residents in your neighborhood who could be.
- D. Have the capacity to adequately represent the diversity (of any and all types) of those living in your subdivision or neighborhood.
- E. Are a frequent transit or road user along the proposed RTS route that runs nearest your neighborhood.

Please help us distribute the nomination form to your residents. It is available on the County's website at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rtb in both English and Spanish. A paper copy will be mailed to you shortly. Residents may nominate themselves or be nominated by others. Note the date we are suggesting for them to submit their self-nomination to you is November 21.

Please submit to us the name and contact information for the representative you select no later than December 5, 2014. We would appreciate a copy of the individual's nomination form for our records. You can email the information to us at the address below or send via USPS to me at MCDOT Director's Office, 101 Monroe Street, 10th Floor, Rockville MD 20850. We anticipate holding a kick-off meeting for all of the committees in late January/early February 2015.

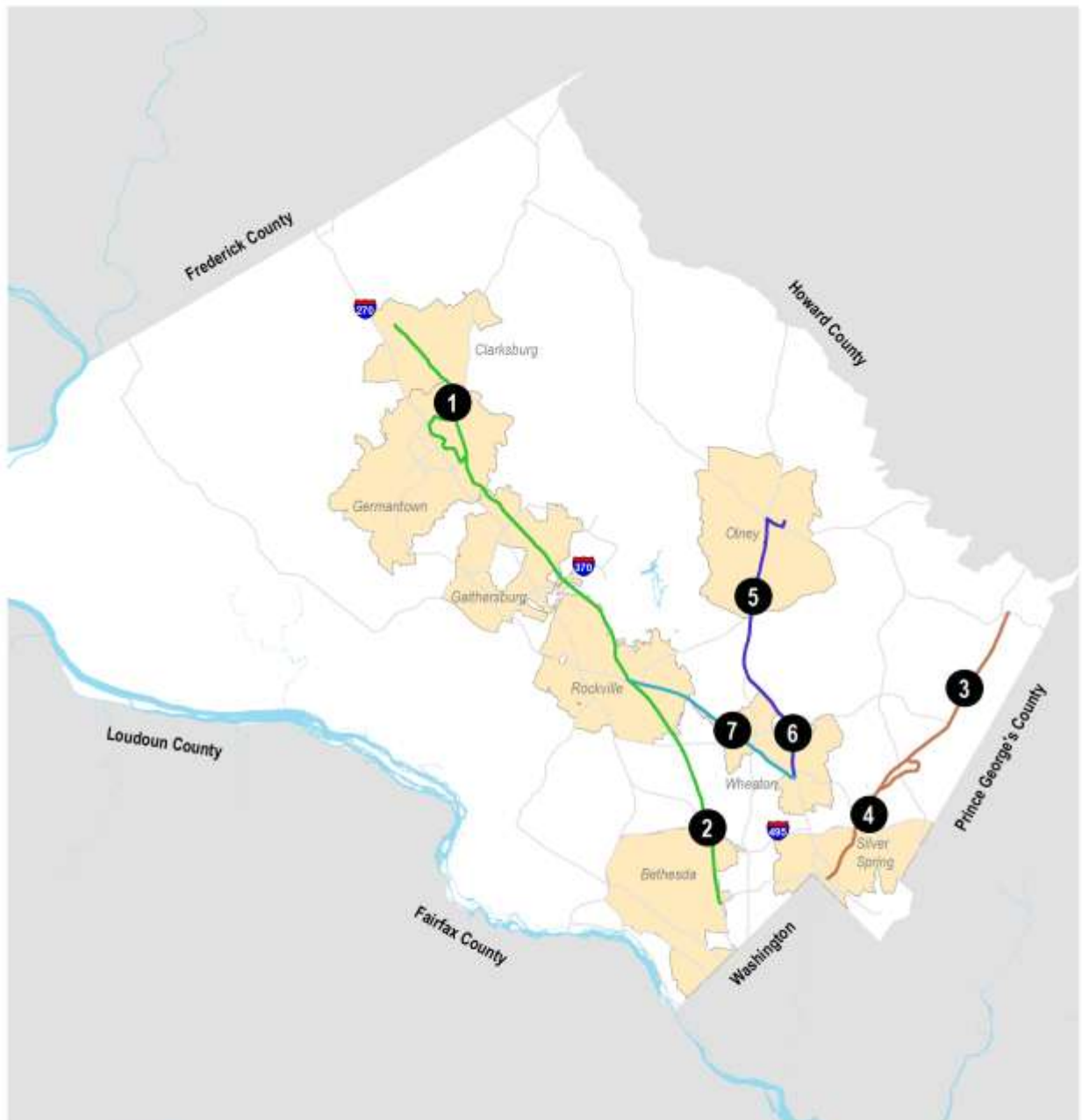
Thank you in advance for your assistance in this selection process. We look forward to working together on this exciting initiative in your community. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact us by phone at 240.777.7155 or by email at rapid.transit@montgomerycountymd.gov.

Sincerely,

Joana Conklin, RTS Development Manager

Enclosures:

- Map of bus rapid transit corridors currently under study [*see below*]
- Rapid Transit System Corridor Advisory Committee self-nomination form [*see website; a paper copy will be mailed via USPS to you shortly*]
- Montgomery County Rapid Transit System (RTS) Corridor Advisory Committees, Planning Outline for Structure and Selection Procedures [*see website; a paper copy will be mailed via USPS to you shortly*]



RTS Corridor

- Georgia Ave North — US 29
- MD 355 — Veirs Mill Rd

1 Advisory Committee Areas

